# AUTOMATIC SIDE SELECTION IN DOUBLE-RING TOPOLOGIES

## Abstract of the Disclosure

Connecting a new node to a double ring network or establishing a new network

5      having a double ring network is greatly simplified by automatic mapping of logical

interfaces to physical interfaces to conform to a mapping or polarity observed by other

nodes in the network. A node may discover the network polarity via a message received

from an adjacent node and, if necessary, invert the mapping between its two logical

interfaces and two physical interfaces. This facilitates installation by relaxing the

10     requirement that the correct media pair be connected to the correct node physical

interface. Nodes equipped with this automatic side selection capability may interoperate

with nodes that are not so-equipped.